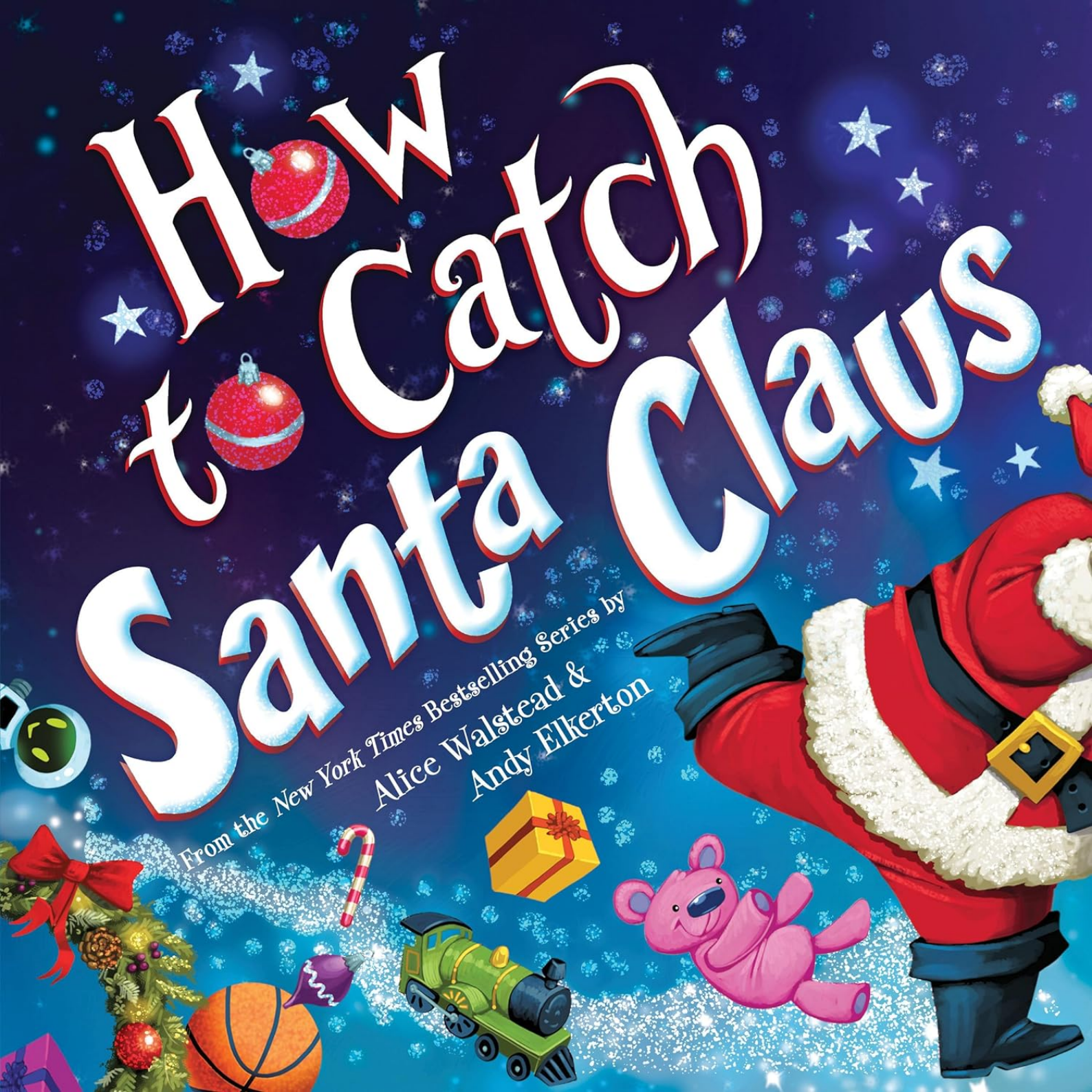


How to Catch Santa Claus

From the New York Times Bestselling Series by
Alice Walstead &
Andy Elkerton





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'Twas the night before **CHRISTMAS**,
and all through the house,
the children have set traps—
and not for a mouse.



This makes sense to me.
Yes, I **understand** why!
I'm a holiday legend
with reindeer that fly.



As much as I want to stay for a while,
I have stops 'round the world tonight.
I'd love to talk to each child there is,
but these toys need homes by **daylight**.



You're all so smart and clever,
and the traps do look like fun,
but I can't get too **distracted**.
There's a lot of work to be done!



I love Christmas flowers.
They grow at the **NORTH POLE**.
But I don't need to take these.
It's time for me to roll!



The tree looks so **festive**
and cozy in this nook.
The room is all decked out,
but an odd place to put a book.



Hope the presents bring joy.
I've added gifts to each list
because surprises are **important**.
I call it my gift-checklist-twist!



I bet no one knows about
the **MAGIC KEY** that I don't show.
I can walk from house to house,
to come in and then to go.



The trap fooled the **reindeer**,
and Elf, you don't get to smirk.
Other plots sure snagged you.
I hope kids don't know this works!



We've got to keep moving,
but I will pause for a snack.
Can't sit in the chair, though.
There's a toy sack to **UNPACK!**



Those **COOKIES** were good,
and no traps did I spy.
Time to call the sleigh team.
We're almost ready to fly!



Oh my, this is **IMPRESSIVE.**

It must have taken hours!

(But if I'm being honest,
I prefer the trap of flowers.)



There's one thing that's true:
these toys go under the tree.
I just can't see how to do that,
so I'm *sending* you and not me!





How did we get out you ask?
It looked like we were done for.
Santa's magic is very real,
and I cannot reveal more.

I've loved this visit
but I'm done here **tonight**.
I'll be back next year,
time to fly out of sight.



Merry Christmas to all,
and to all a good night!





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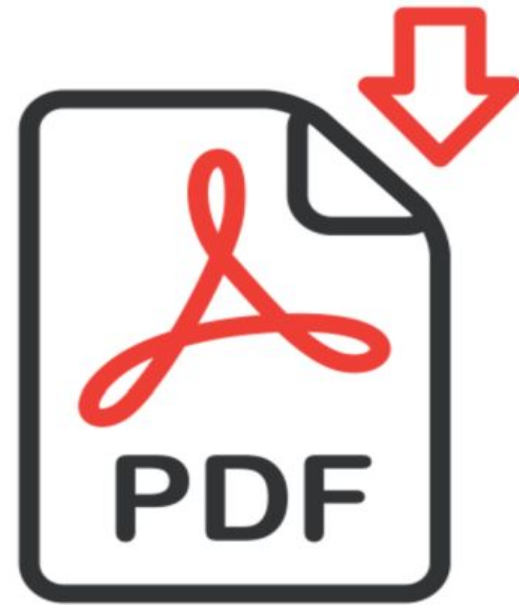
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It's Christmas Eve! I am almost there!
I know you've hatched a plan.
So when you hear my **HO! HO! HO!**
Try to catch me, if YOU can!